THE ULTIMATE SPACE FANTASY!

SPELLJAMMER™

SPELLJAMMER

6
FEB 91

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...OOPS...!

Kesel
•
Collins
•
Ritter
•
Fern
•
Acerno

JANKE

SPELLJAMMER

CIRCLE OF FEAR

MEREDITH AND HER CREW HAVE JOURNEYED ACROSS SPACE TO THE JUNGLE PLANET BORODA FOR A VARIETY OF REASONS...

... SOME OF THEM PERSONAL.

SO, YOU ARE THE *CAPTAIN* OF THIS VESSEL, EH, MOTHER? A CAPTAIN OF *FIVE*, ON A TINY UGLY CRAFT?

AND YOU'RE CALLING YOURSELF *MEREDITH* THESE DAYS?

AND YOU, *BORS*, HAVE ABANDONED A PROMISING FUTURE TO BECOME GAME WARDEN TO ILLITERATE SAVAGES.

YOU'RE OBVIOUSLY SERVING SOME HORRIBLE PENANCE FOR HAVING BEEN BORN THE SON OF A WIZARDESS.

DON'T MINCE WORDS, MOTHER-- TELL ME WHAT YOU *REALLY* THINK!

NO PENANCE NEEDED. IN SPITE OF YOURSELF YOU'VE BEEN A FINE MOTHER TO ME.

AND, NOW I SEE YOU'VE ADOPTED A *NEW* PUP--?

YES, THE BOY *TEMBER*. THE *REASON* I CAME HERE.

HAVE YOUR MIRACLE WORKERS MADE A WARRIOR OF HIM YET?

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THEY'RE TRYING. YOU SAW WHAT WE HAD TO WORK WITH.

THE BOY'LL BE MAKING HIS ENTRANCE SOON.

IN HIS OWN VERSION OF GRAND STYLE, I ASSUME.

MAYBE THAT'S-- HIM NOW--

SORRY I'M LATE.

<KIRSTIG?>

<WHAT ARE YOU WEARING?>

HELLO, RUPAU, HANNOUS.

IT'S JUST NEW CLOTHES, RUPAU. MY OTHER ONES WERE TOO WARM FOR THIS WORLD.

NO, DEFINITELY NOT *TEMBER*... UNLESS YOUR PEOPLE ARE MIRACLE WORKERS OF A VERY DIFFERENT SORT, BORS.

THAT'S YOUR QUIET CLERIC?

OBVIOUSLY, THIS WORLD'S AIR MAKES EVERYONE BUT ME A LITTLE CRAZY.

RRRRRIPPP

LADEEEEZ AND GENTLEMEN!!!

PRESENTING THE NEWEST THREAT TO BORODA'S WILD BEASTS! THE HILLS THEMSELVES WILL TREMBLE AT THE SOUND OF *TEMBER!*

TREMBLE FROM SUPRESSING THEIR LAUGHTER. HE LOOKS LIKE AN ARMORED DANDELION!

NOW, MOTHER, ALL MEN START AS BOYS.

WOW! KIRSTIG--

-- WHEN'D YOU GET TO LOOK LIKE *THAT*?

I JUST CHANGED MY *GARMENT*, TEMBER.

LIKE YOU.

NOTHING'S CHANGED *INSIDE*. I'M STILL THE SAME PERS--

ALLOW ME.

WHY, THANK YOU!

ANYTHING YOU WANT...

IF THEY START HAND-FEEDING HER *GRAPES*, I'LL *SCREAM*...

...AND THEY PROBABLY WON'T EVEN NOTICE *THAT*...

AND, AFTER DINNER...

LET ME KNOW IF YOU'RE GETTING TIRED...

...THE MUSIC WON'T STOP UNTIL THE LAST DANCER DOES!

WATCH YOUR TONGUE-- I'LL OUTLAST YOU *AND* OUTLIVE YOU, CHILD!

HI, I'M TENAH!

A HANDSOME YOUNG MAN LIKE *YOU* SHOULDN'T BE SITTING HERE WHILE THERE'S DANCING GOING ON!

C'MON!

UM...I'M NOT SURE I KNOW HOW...

I HATE PARTIES...

IT'S EASY! JUST FOLLOW ME AND DO EVERYTHING I SAY!

NOBODY WILL NOTICE IF I SLIP OUTSIDE... JUST FOR A WHILE...

JUST LIKE THEY'D NEVER NOTICE IF I DIDN'T COME BACK...

...UNTIL THEY NEED MY WINGS.

WHAT IS WITH ME TONIGHT? AS IF I CARE WHAT TEMBER THINKS OF ME...

...WHAT A STUPID IDEA.

HE'S JUST A KID.

NOT A FIGHTER...

...NOT A PALADIN...

...JUST A KID.

SNAP

HUH?

NO ONE'S BEHIND US!

GOOD!

I STILL SAY I HEARD SOMETHING ELSE OUT HERE!

LOOKS LIKE SOME OF THE LITTLE BRATS ARE HAVING THEIR OWN PARTY.

WITH THE HELP OF A LITTLE MAGIC.

READY?

LET'S SAY THE WORDS...

WILDFYRE APPEAR!

IT'S WORKING!

DID YOU THINK HE'D LIE TO US?

GREETINGS, YOUNGLINGS! THE PLAN IS SET--YOU ARE TO BRING YOURSELVES TO ME WHEN YOU HEAR MY CALL... TOMORROW, WHEN THE SUN BURNS HIGH AND BRIGHT!

GREETINGS, YOUNGLINGS! THE PLAN IS SET--YOU ARE TO BRING--

WILDFYRE!

THEY'RE *HUNTING* FOR MONSTERS--THEY MIGHT THINK *YOU'RE* ONE! THEY'RE SENDING THE BIRD-LADY!

A DRAGON! BUT THERE ARE NO DRAGONS HERE-- IT MUST BE SOME SORT OF ILLUSION *GAME*.

BUT A STRANGE ONE... I WONDER WHO HERE KNOWS HOW TO CAST A PROGRAMMED ILLUSION?

I WISH I COULD HEAR WHAT THEY'RE SAYING.

HE KEEPS REPEATING THE MESSAGE...

MAYBE HE'S NOT REALLY HERE--AND THAT'S JUST AN *IMAGE* TO GIVE US HIS INSTRUCTIONS...

TOMORROW... WE'LL COME, WILDFYRE!

I'D BETTER LEAVE BEFORE THEY SPOT ME INTRUDING ON THEIR PRIVACY.

PLAYING WITH *MAGIC* COULD GET THEM IN *TROUBLE*...

...BUT EVERYONE'S ENTITLED TO THEIR SECRETS... AND THEIR MISTAKES.

MORNING.

THE SCOUTS HAVE HEADED INTO POSITION. ARE WE ALL READY?

THIS WOULD BE A LOT EASIER IF YOU'D JUST LET ME--

NO! NOT LIKE THAT! YOU'RE LEAVING YOUR TORSO WIDE OPEN TO ATTACK!

GOOD! WANNA ATTACK ME?

YOU DON'T LIVE HERE, LA--***MEREDITH***. WE CAN TAKE CARE OF OUR OWN PROBLEMS.

AND DON'T KEEP TRYING TO CHANGE MY MIND--I'VE INHERITED ***YOUR*** STUBBORN STREAK.

PAY ATTENTION! THIS IS ***IMPORTANT!***

LUNGE AND REVERSE--YOU KEEP YOURSELF FROM STEPPING INTO RANGE THIS WAY.

THAT'S ***BETTER,*** BUT WATCH WHAT I DO.

SEE?

I'M WATCHING... ***VERY*** CAREFULLY.

WE'RE NEARLY READY, JASMINE...

...ARE YOU SURE YOU DON'T WANT A SWORD? LAST CHANCE.

KIRSTIG! WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?

I'M SURE. I FIGHT BETTER WITH SMALLER WEAPONS, EASY TO STASH.

LIKE THIS?

YES!

AREN'T YOU GOING TO STAY BEHIND WITH THE OTHER NON-FIGHTERS?

NO, MY HEALING MAGIC MIGHT BE NEEDED.

BESIDES, WE CAN DEFEND OURSELVES WITH OUR MAGIC, JUST AS *YOU* CAN.

DEFEND YOURSELF FROM THE *MONSTERS*, PERHAPS...

HELLO, KIRSTIG!

MORNING, KIRSTIG!

...BUT WHAT ABOUT THE *BEASTS*?

HANNOUS, I HOPE THE GIRL KNOWS WHAT SHE'S DOING.

HOW'S THE ARM, TAUD?

SORE, BUT I COULD STILL GO ALONG...

NO, STAY HERE AND LET IT REST.

I'D RATHER KEEP YOU SAFE HERE UNTIL IT'S FULLY HEALED.

LET'S GO!

WATCH OUT, WOOLIES! WE'RE AFTER YOU NOW!

SHHHH, TEMBER!

TEMBER, YOU *DO* REALIZE YOU COULD BE IN SERIOUS DANGER HERE?

I KNOW! I KNOW!

DON'T FORGET--I SAW THAT BEAR-THING ATTACKING THEM YESTERDAY, TOO!

TROUBLE COMES, I'M GONNA BE AS FAR AWAY FROM IT AS I CAN GET...

...WHILE STILL LOOKING *BRAVE*, OF COURSE!

MAKE SURE YOU DO. I WON'T BE LOOKING OUT FOR YOU.

STAY ALERT, EVERYONE! WE'RE ENTERING THE TARGET AREA.

SHHHHH...

CATOBLEPAS...

PROBABLY BOTH OF THEM.

TAIL LIKE A WHIP AND DEATH-STARE EYES, *THAT ONE*?

THAT'S THEM.

WHACK

UGGH!

SCOT!

WHUD

GRAB IT--

YAUUUGH!

SNAKE!

NO *SNAKE*, SON--THAT'S JUST ITS *TAIL*. KEEP LOW.

URGH!

KEEP YOUR EYES DOWN--DON'T GET CAUGHT IN ITS GAZE!

KERRRR

THIS IS RIDICULOUS. STEP ASIDE, BORS!

GRRR

HOLD, MONSTER!

KAURGH?

KRRRR

KEEP ON YOUR TOES--THEY TRAVEL IN PAIRS!

MOTHER...

OH, COME NOW, BORS--YOU DON'T DIG A HOLE WITH A SPOON WHEN A *SHOVEL* IS HANDY, DO YOU?

NOT A RUSTLE.

KEEP WATCHING FOR THE MATE!

I'D SAY THIS ONE'S A ROGUE. ANY *MATE* WOULD'VE HEARD US BY--

--NOW--

KRRAU

EYAUGHH

KRAK

AAAAH!

LARA! *MOTHER!*

I'LL GET HIM!

HEY, WAIT FOR ME! I'LL --

TEMBER, YOU'RE NOT SUPPOSED TO GET INVOLVED!

TENAH? BUT THEY--?

THEY'VE GOT IT UNDER CONTROL.

COME WITH ME.

BUT WHERE?

WHY?

SHOULDN'T WE TELL THEM WHERE WE'RE--

OH, TEMBER, DO YOU *ALWAYS* TELL ADULTS *EVERYTHING*?

WELL, WE'RE FIGHTING A *MONSTER* RIGHT NOW AND I WOULDN'T WANT THEM TO WORRY...

DON'T BE A BABY! WE'LL BE BACK BEFORE THEY CAN NOTICE WE'RE GONE.

WHERE ARE WE GOING?

I'M TAKING YOU TO MEET A FRIEND. HE'S PROMISED SOME OF US SOMETHING SPECIAL AND I THOUGHT YOU'D BE INTERESTED...

YOU SEEM TO KNOW THE WAY REAL WELL.

I CAN HEAR WILDFYRE CALLING. THAT'S HIS NAME-- *WILDFYRE!* YOU'LL REALLY LIKE HIM...

WHAT AM I DOING? PAX WOULD NEVER APPROVE OF MY RUNNING OUT ON MY FRIENDS...

...BUT THEN, PAX WOULDN'T APPROVE OF THE *FIGHTING*.

IN FACT, I THINK HE'D BE *PROUD* OF ME FOR STAYING OUT OF THE BATTLE...

I THINK.

NO, I'M *SURE*.

I HOPE THOSE EARS OF YOURS AREN'T LEADING US WRONG...

WE'RE HERE!

WE *ARE*, HUH? SO WHERE'S THIS WILDFYRE GUY?

THIS ISN'T A TRICK, IS IT?

I MEAN, I WAS ABOUT TO FIGHT A MONSTER AND THERE'S NOTHING I LIKE BETTER THAN FI--

YIPE!

A NEW ONE?

T-THAT'S--

YOUR FRIEND'S A... A *RED DRAGON*?

YOU HAVE A *PROBLEM* WITH THAT, BOY?

N-NO. NO! 'COURSE NOT. WHY SHOULD I? NO. NOT AT ALL... *SIR*...

KYREEEEEEE

MEANWHILE...

THIS ONE'S A MEANER FIGHTER--MUST THINK WE'VE HURT ITS MATE.

OH, GREAT MOTHER OF MELODY, THE SONG OF LIFE IS SLIPPING FROM THIS MAN!

GRANT ME THE POWER TO--

--TO...

...TO...

NOTHING!

NO SONG!

MOTHER OF SONGS, WHAT HAVE I DONE TO OFFEND YOU?

AND WHY DID YOU HAVE TO PUNISH THIS MAN FOR MY DEAFNESS?

I'M GETTING TOO OLD FOR THIS STUPIDITY, BORS.

LARA?

IF IT'S ANY CONSOLATION, WE CAUGHT *THIS* ONE WITHOUT YOU.

I GUESS TWENTY MEN WITH SPOONS CAN DIG AS WELL AS ONE MAN WITH A SHOVEL.

MALD--YOUR SCOUTS WILL MARCH AHEAD OF THE CATOBLEPAS. NOMAH, FOLLOW BEHIND.

IF YOU'RE ATTACKED, LOOSE THE MONSTERS AND HIDE--LET *THEM* FIGHT, NOT YOU.

MEREDITH! IS YOUR MAGIC WORKING CORRECTLY?

OF COURSE.

I USED MINE TO HEAL SOME OF THE FIGHTERS...

BUT WHEN I PRAYED FOR MORE, NOTHING HAPPENED!

I CAN'T HEAR THE MOTHER OF SONGS!

SOMETIMES THAT HAPPENS. NOT ALL GODS TOUCH ALL WORLDS.

I WOULDN'T WORRY.

I FELT SO HAPPY, SO FREE. WAS I JUST BEING ABANDONED BY MY GODDESS...

...SO THAT YOUNG MAN COULD *DIE* IN MY ARMS?

NO! THE MOTHER IS *NOT* THAT CRUEL!

SOMETHING IS WRONG!

JUST DIED, EH? MAYBE I CAN DO SOMETHING ABOUT THAT...

MOTHER... WHAT ARE YOU...

NO!

JUST WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?

NOTHING!

THINK, MOTHER! THIS IS A WORLD OF FIGHTERS! WHAT WOULD HAPPEN TO THEIR FIGHTING EDGE IF THEY DIDN'T FEEL MORTAL, VULNERABLE?

BORS, WHAT DO YOU THINK I WAS TRYING TO DO? RESURRECT HIM?

I CAN'T DO THAT. I DON'T HAVE THE POWER.

WELL, YOU WERE CERTAINLY ACTING LIKE YOU WERE GOING TO TRY!

THESE PEOPLE HAVE COME A LONG WAY IN A SHORT TIME, BUT THEY'RE NOT READY TO SEE DEATH AS ANYTHING BUT FINAL! IS THAT CLEAR?

DON'T LECTURE ME, BORS.

I CALL UPON THE MELODIES WITHIN TO RELIEVE THIS MAN'S PAIN...

NO. IT DOES NOT WORK ...I'M ...SORRY.

DELIVERY OF TWO CATOBLEPAS TO ONE VALLEY NEARLY COMPLETE, FOLKS!

TEMBER? HE'S-- WHERE IS HE?

SAY, MEREDITH-- WHAT HAPPENED TO THE PROBLEM CHILD?

CHECK WITH THE PATROLS. GET A CLEAR COUNT OF WHO'S MISSING.

TENAH'S GONE TOO, BORS!

DOES TEMBER OFTEN WANDER OFF?

IF TENAH LED HIM AWAY, HE WOULD.

MY DAUGHTER IS A *RESPONSIBLE* GIRL!

THEN, WITH SUCH A *FINE* PEDIGREE, SHE'S *MORE* THAN A MATCH FOR ANYTHING THEY MEET IN THE VELDT.

I'M NOT WASTING EVERYONE'S TIME SEARCHING FOR TWO FLIRTING TEENS.

NILSA, TAKE A PATROL AND LOOK FOR THEM. IF YOU FIND NOTHING BY SUNSET, HEAD HOME.

THEY WANDERED OFF, *THEY* CAN FIND THEIR WAY BACK.

YES, BORS.

I'M SURE THEY'LL TURN UP, BORS, EMBARRASSED BUT FINE.

I STILL REMEMBER HUNTING FOR YOU AND JIEN...

VERY FUNNY...

AS THE HUNTING PARTY NEARS THE VILLAGE...

HOWWLLLLL

WHAT'S THAT? ANOTHER MONSTER?

STAND BACK!

GRRRRLL

IT'S ARF-ARF!

ARF-ARF?

TENAH'S PUPPY.

HE MUST'VE FOUND A HOLE IN THE WALL AGAIN.

SOMETHING'S SCARED HIM.

ARF-ARF, HUH?

HERE, PUPPY.

ISSA WITTLE PUPPY SCARED?

AW,,, NICE PUPPY.

WE'LL HAVE TO FIND THE HOLE AND--

BY THE GODS!

OH, NO!

THE WALL--?

WHAT IN THE WORLDS,,,?

BORODA...

...OUR VILLAGE...

From the Producer of THE HUNT FOR RED OCTOBER.

The only thing they can count on is each other.

flight of the intruder

Danny Glover ★ Willem Dafoe ★ Brad Johnson

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